

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 106863

FOLLOWING REPEAT MADRID 3452 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN
BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE LISBON LONDON OSLO PARIS
NATO BRUSSELS BELGRADE ATHENS NICOSIA STOCKHOLM VALLETTA
TEL AVIV TRIPOLI 04 MAY 77

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3452

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SP

SUBJECT: PSOE TO HOST SOUTHERN EUROPEAN SOCIALIST CONFERENCE;
STILL UNDECIDED ON ATTENDING MALTA MEDITERRANEAN SOCIALIST
MEETING

REF: VALLETTA 450

1. THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL (SI)- MEMBER SPANISH SOCIALIST
WORKERS PARTY (PSOE) WILL HOST A "CONFERENCE OF SOCIALIST
PARTIES OF SOUTHERN EUROPE" ON MAY 7-8. THE MEETING, WHICH
IS FUNDAMENTALLY AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN RESOURCE FOR THE PSOE,
IS A FOLLOW-ON TO THE FIRST SUCH ASSEMBLY, WHICH WAS HOSTED
BY THE PSF IN PARIS IN JANUARY 1976.

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PAGE 02 STATE 106863 POSS DUPE

2. TOP BILLING AT THE CONFERENCE GOES TO "CO-ORGANIZERS" PSF,
PSI, PSP, AND PSB, WHO WILL BE REPRESENTED, RESPECTIVELY, BY
MITTERAND, CRAXI, SOARES, AND COOLS/CLAES. OTHER MEMBER PARTIES
OF THE SI, THE GREEK PASOK, THE YUGOSLAV SOCIALIST ALLIANCE AND
EXILED CHILEAN SOCIALISTS ARE AMONG THE INVITED GUESTS. CENTRAL
THEMES OF THE CONFERENCE WILL BE: COOPERATION, PEACE AND

SECURITY IN EUROPE AFTER HELSINKI AND BEFORE BELGRADE;
DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM IN SOUTHERN EUROPE; COOPERATION BETWEEN
EUROPE AND THE THIRD WORLD FROM A SOCIALIST PERSPECTIVE; THE
SOUTHERN EUROPEAN SOCIALIST PARTIES AND THE MEDITERRANEAN;
AND PERSPECTIVES ON THE INTEGRATION OF PORTUGAL, GREECE AND SPAIN
INTO THE EC.

3. AFTER DEALING WITH THESE WEIGHTY ISSUES ALL DAY SATURDAY,
THE PSOE THEN WILL GET DOWN TO CASES SATURDAY NIGHT WHEN IT
WILL HOST A "PEOPLES' POLITICAL FIESTA" ORGANIZED AROUND THE
PRESENCE OF THE VISITING SOCIALIST LEADERS AT A MADRID SOCCER
STADIUM. PARTY LEADERS HOPE THE TURNOUT WILL EXCEED 100,000.
THE CONFERENCE ITSELF WILL THEN CONCLUDE ON SUNDAY.

4. PSOE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY LUIS YANEZ TOLD EMBOFF MAY 3
THAT THE PARTY LEADERSHIP STILL HAD NOT DECIDED WHETHER TO
ATTEND THE MALTA MEDITERRANEAN SOCIALIST MEETING IN JUNE
(REFTEL). THE DECISION WOULD BE MADE, HE SAID, AFTER CONSULTA-
TION WITH OTHER PARTY LEADERS (PARTICULARLY PSF, PSI, AND PSP)
AT THE WEEKEND CONFERENCE. ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF THE
INVOLVEMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN MEETING OF TIerno GAL-
VAN'S SMALL POPULAR SOCIALIST PARTY, THE PSOE'S ADVERSARY,
PARTY LEADERS WOULD CERTAINLY PREFER TO JOIN THE PORTU-
GUESE SOCIALISTS (LISBON 3370) IN IGNORING THE MALTA
MEETING ALTOGETHER. BUT THE PRESENCE OF THE PSF (PARIS
11699) AND POSSIBLY OTHERS AS OBSERVERS MIGHT COMPEL
THE PSOE TO PUT IN SOME SORT OF RELUCTANT APPEARANCE.
WE NOTE ALSO THAT THE CERTAIN ANTI-ISRAEL THRUST OF THE
MALTA MEETING WILL RUN COMPLETELY COUNTER TO THE CONSIS-
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PAGE 03 STATE 106863 POSS DUPE

TENT PUBLIC POSITION OF THE PSOE, WHICH MAINTAINS GOOD
RELATIONS WITH THE ISRAELI LABOR PARTY, SUPPORTS THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH ISRAEL, AND IS
QUITE CRITICAL OF THE GOS'S REFUSAL TO DO SO. THE PSP,
IN CONTRAST, IS QUITE BALDLY ANTI-ISRAEL.

5. FOR THE RECORD, CONCERNING MATEUS' REMARKS ABOUT TIerno
GALVAN'S LIBYAN TIE (LISBON 3370), IT IS WIDELY ACCEPT-
ED HERE THAT THE POPULAR SOCIALISTS ARE ON THE LIBYAN DOLE.
WHILE PARTY LEADERS HAVE VOLUNTEERED DENIALS, THEY HAVE IMPLIED
PRIVATELY THAT LIBYA HELPED FINANCE THE FIRST MEDITER-
RANEAN CONFERENCE IN BARCELONA, AND WE HAVE NO REASON
TO DOUBT THAT THE LIBYANS ARE INDEED AIDING THE PARTY. STABLER.
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER.

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